

Diplomacy and International Assistance

The President's 2007 Budget continues the successful pro-growth policies that have encouraged robust economic growth and job creation. A strong economy, together with spending restraint, is critical to reducing the deficit. The Budget builds on last year's successful spending restraint by again holding the growth of overall discretionary spending below inflation, proposing to reduce non-security discretionary spending below the previous year's level, and calling for the elimination or reduction of programs not getting results or not fulfilling essential priorities. Like last year, the budget proposes savings and reforms to mandatory spending programs, whose unsustainable growth poses the real long-term danger to our fiscal health.

Winning the War on Terror is the highest foreign policy priority of this Administration, and victory requires making the world safer and better for all its citizens. In support of this objective, programs in the Department of State and other international affairs agencies are directed at expanding the circle of development to thwart the advance of terrorism, encouraging economic progress, fighting disease, assisting the development of freedom, democracy, and economic opportunity in Iraq and Afghanistan and throughout the world; providing support to our coalition partners; and improving the peacekeeping capabilities of other nations.

The President's FY 2007 Budget:

- Expands the number of people in Africa and the Caribbean who receive life-saving treatment for HIV/AIDS through the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) to 1.3 million by 2008, an increase of almost 900,000.
- Meets the President's commitments to fight malaria in Africa, provides 100 percent debt cancellation to qualifying heavily indebted poor countries, and continues a path to double aid to Africa by 2010.
- Continues vital democracy building and reconstruction efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan and builds the capacity of our allies to fight terrorists by increasing key anti-terrorism and security assistance.
- Promotes efforts to expand democracy in the broader Middle East, including funding for educational exchanges in the region, public diplomacy, democracy programs, and broadcasting to the area in the broader Middle East.

The 2007 Budget includes:

Winning the War on Terror and Spreading Freedom

- \$770 million to fund programs in Iraq that are targeted to building the democratic base from which the nascent Iraqi democracy can expand, sustaining its economic infrastructure, enhancing Iraqi national capacity, and sponsoring economic development projects that will enable the Iraqi economy to become an engine of growth capable of supporting the Iraqi people.
- \$120 million for the Middle East Partnership Initiative to support democracy in the Middle East by encouraging political, economic, and educational reform and the empowerment of women.

- \$80 million for the National Endowment for Democracy, which provides grants to private organizations that build and strengthen democratic institutions, promote the rule of law, human rights, and a free press.
- \$35 million for the Human Rights and Democracy Fund to support democracy and human rights in countries of strategic importance to the United States.
- \$3.2 million to expand American Corners in the Muslim world—centers dedicated to providing information about the United States.
- \$474 million for Educational and Cultural Exchange programs, an increase of approximately \$48 million over the 2006 level, with an emphasis on the Muslim world. These programs seek to improve the world's understanding of the United States and Americans' understanding of the world by providing opportunities for individuals from the United States and abroad to learn about each other's societies through educational, cultural, and professional exchange programs.
- \$115 million for a new National Security Language Initiative. This multi-agency initiative will fill a critical national security need by expanding the number of Americans mastering critical need languages that are directly related to our efforts to wage the Global War on Terror.
- \$672 million to support radio, television, and Internet broadcasting of news and information about the United States and the world to people across the globe.

Meeting Urgent Needs and Promoting Development

- \$4 billion, more than \$740 million over 2006, to continue the global fight against HIV/AIDS. The 2007 funds will be used to ramp-up support for the delivery of treatment, care, and prevention activities by building on the demonstrated success of the programs on the ground and the capacity that has been built in the 15 focus countries during the first three years of PEPFAR.
- \$225 million for malaria programs, including \$135 million for the first year of the President's 2005 G8 Malaria Initiative. The Initiative will increase preventive and curative interventions by 2010 in 15 African countries that have particularly high rates of malarial infection in order to reduce malaria deaths by 50 percent in each of the target countries.
- \$3 billion in 2007 for the Millennium Challenge Account (MCA), the innovative initiative at the cornerstone of the President's policy to forge a new compact that strengthens democracies, reduces poverty through economic growth, and in the process, helps in the fight against global terrorism. This funding will allow the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) to sign up to eight transformational compacts worth an average of \$375 million; support a Threshold Program that provides assistance to countries that narrowly miss qualifying for MCA Compact funding; and provide for MCC administrative expenses.
- \$100 million for the African Education Initiative part of the President's four year \$400 million program to provide hundreds of thousands of scholarships for girls, extensive teacher training, and millions of textbooks and other learning materials.
- \$9.5 million to combat sexual violence and abuse against women in Africa through a new Women's Justice and Empowerment Initiative.
- Full support for the U.S. share of the multilateral debt forgiveness provided by the G-8 proposal to cancel 100 percent of the multilateral debt for qualifying heavily indebted poor countries.

Reducing Conflict

- \$75 million for a Conflict Response Fund to build a civilian response capability, including establishment of a civilian reserve component that can quickly provide needed expertise to

- rebuild the institutions of government in post-conflict or failed-state situations. In addition, the FY 2007 Budget proposes to strengthen the ability of the Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization to lead U.S. planning efforts for countries and regions of most concern, and to coordinate the deployment of U.S. resources when needed.
- \$1.14 billion for UN peacekeeping missions. These missions create conditions conducive to democratic elections, facilitate the delivery of humanitarian relief, and provide a stable political and economic environment that fosters democratic institutions and development.
 - \$102.6 million for the third year of the Global Peace Operations Initiative to train and equip 75,000 troops by 2010 to increase global capacity to conduct peace support operations with a particular focus on Africa.
 - Over \$420 million to help the new Afghan government fight the drug trade and give farmers viable alternatives to poppy cultivation.
 - \$722 million for the Andean Counterdrug Initiative, which advances the President's goal of strengthening democracy, regional stability, and economic development throughout the Andean region. The Initiative provides balanced funding between law enforcement and security programs, and alternative livelihood assistance for those who are at risk from the illicit narcotics trade.
 - Supports humanitarian needs and peacekeeping in Sudan, including Darfur, and refugees in Eastern Chad.

Keeping Americans Safe at Home and Abroad

- Continuing support for a multi-year effort to secure all overseas embassies and posts to protect United States Government employees and their families.
- \$209 million for nonproliferation programs of the Department of State that help countries control dangerous materials and secure their borders, and that direct the work of scientists with knowledge of WMD technology into productive and sustainable civilian work.
- \$214 million (in addition to the \$280 million provided through supplemental appropriations in 2006) to carry out the National Strategy on Pandemic Influenza in countries where infected birds have already been found and in other countries that are on the cusp of infection.
- \$1.14 billion for key Department of State Border Security initiatives, including screening system interoperability and real-time access to information collected by consular affairs and border officials, and implementing the requirement that all travelers within the Western Hemisphere travel with a passport or other authorized document by 2009.